[*Translation*]

**Setting up of Zoos**

6424. SHRI SWAMI SURESHANAND: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up more zoos in the country;

(b) if so, their locations, Statewise, and

(c) the amount allocated for the setting up of these zoos?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) There is no proposal presently under consideration of the Central Government to set up any new Zoo in the Country.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

**Blind Persons in Bihar**

6425. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY. Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of blind persons in Bihar district-wise;

(b) the districts in Bihar where there is no facility for the operation of cataract in the Primary Health Centres; and

(c) the number of districts to be provided with this facility during 1991-93?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) to (c). A survey conducted in 1986-89 indicated that the prevalence rate of blindness in Bihar is 1.28%. District-wise number of blind persons is not available. Control of Blindness is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme. Central Government does not propose to provide specific facilities at Primary Health Centres of Bihar for cataract operations in 1992-93. However, Central Government proposes to continue reimbursement at approved rates for operations done including at Primary Health Centres level by non-Governmental organisations.

[*English*]

**Upgradation of Nizam Institute of Medical Sciences, Hyderabad**

6426. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARULU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Nizam Institute of Medical Sciences, Hyderabad is enjoying the status of University,

(b) whether the Institute has proposed the Union Government to upgrade its status to that of All India Institute of Medical Sciences; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Institute approached the Central Govt. to recognise it as an Institute of National Importance on the lines of AIIMS, New Delhi However, the Central Govt. have not been able to accede to this